

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.J. Res. 66, Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act, as amended.

Senate passed H.R. 2887, Surface and Air Transportation Programs Extension Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5637–S5698

Measures Introduced: Thirteen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1561–1573, and S. Res. 268–270. **Page S5684**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 2219, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 112–77)

S. 1572, making appropriations for Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012. (S. Rept. No. 112–78)

S. 1573, making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. (S. Rept. No. 112–79)

H.R. 2551, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 112–80) **Pages S5683–84**

Measures Passed:

Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act: Senate passed H.J. Res. 66, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S5653–66

Adopted:

By 62 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 135) Reid Amendment No. 602, to provide additional appropriations for disaster relief in fiscal years 2011 and 2012. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having achieved 60 affirmative votes, be agreed to.) **Pages S5653, S5664–65**

Rejected:

By 54 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 133), Coburn Amendment No. 610 (to Amendment No. 602), to save at least \$7,000,000,000 by consolidating some duplicative and overlapping Government programs. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, the amendment was not agreed to.) **Pages S5654–55, S5662**

By 20 yeas to 78 nays (Vote No. 134), Paul Amendment No. 613 (to Amendment No. 602), to offset the disaster relief appropriations by rescinding amounts for foreign assistance programs. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, the amendment was not agreed to.) **Pages S5655–56, S5661–63**

Withdrawn:

Reid Motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Finance with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 607, to change the enactment date. **Page S5653, S5654**

Reid Amendment No. 603 (to Amendment No. 602), to change the enactment date. **Page S5653, S5654**

Reid Amendment No. 604 (to Amendment No. 603), of a perfecting nature. **Page S5653, S5654**

Reid Amendment No. 605 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 602), of a perfecting nature. **Page S5653, S5654**

Reid Amendment No. 606 (to Amendment No. 605), of a perfecting nature. **Page S5653, S5654**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Reid Amendment No. 608 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 607), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Motion to commit the joint resolution to

the Committee on Finance with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 607, (listed above), was withdrawn.

Pages S5653, S5654

Reid Amendment No. 609 (to Amendment No. 608), of a perfecting nature, fell when Reid Amendment No. 608 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 607), (listed above), fell.

Pages S5653, S5654

Subsequently, the motion to invoke cloture on Reid Amendment No. 602 (listed above), was rendered moot.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the joint resolution, be withdrawn.

Page S5654

Surface and Air Transportation Programs Extension Act: By 92 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. 138), Senate passed H.R. 2887, to provide an extension of surface and air transportation programs, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S5666–69

Rejected:

By 14 yeas to 84 nays (Vote No. 136), Paul Amendment No. 621, to limit the amount authorized to be expended from the Highway Trust Fund in any fiscal year to the amount anticipated to be deposited into the Highway Trust Fund in that fiscal year. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, the amendment was not agreed to.)

Pages S5666–68

By 36 yeas to 61 nays (Vote No. 137), Paul Amendment No. 622, to decrease the authorizations of appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration to fiscal year 2008 levels. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, the amendment was not agreed to.)

Pages S5666–68

Honoring Late Former Senator Malcolm Wallop: Senate agreed to S. Res. 268, relative to the death of the Honorable Malcolm Wallop, former Senator for the State of Wyoming.

Pages S5669–73

National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 269, designating the week beginning September 19, 2011, as “National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week”.

Page S5693

Message From the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the President’s report to Congress relative to the Secretary of Commerce’s certification under section 8 of the Fisherman’s Protective Act of 1967, as amended (the “Pelly Amendment”) (22 U.S.C. 1978) that nation-

als of Iceland have conducted whaling activities that diminish the effectiveness of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) conservation program; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (PM–21)

Page S5682

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Wendy Ruth Sherman, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).

Pages S5692, S5698

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Ronald Lee Buch, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

Alastair M. Fitzpayne, of Maryland, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Brad Carson, of Oklahoma, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

Kevin A. Ohlson, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces for the term of fifteen years to expire on the date prescribed by law.

6 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army, and Foreign Service.

Pages S5697–98

Messages From the House: **Page S5682**

Measures Referred: **Page S5682**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S5682**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S5683, S5693**

Executive Communications: **Page S5683**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5684**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5684–86**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S5686–89**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5680–81**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5689–92**

Authorities for Committees To Meet: **Page S5692**

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—138) **Pages S5662, S5663, S5665, S5668–69**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 8:07 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Friday, September 16, 2011. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5693.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

H.R. 2219, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

An original bill (S. 1572) making appropriations for Departments of Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012;

An original bill (S. 1573) making appropriations for Financial Services and General Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012;

An original bill (H.R. 2551) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012.

ECONOMIC POLICY

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine policy prescriptions for the economy, after receiving testimony from Mark Zandi, Moody's Analytics, West Chester, Pennsylvania; and Chad Stone, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, and Kevin A. Hassett, American Enterprise Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Gregory Howard Woods, of New York, to be General Counsel, David T. Danielson, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and LaDoris Guess Harris, of Georgia, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, all of the Department of Energy, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

TAX REFORM OPTIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine tax reform options, focusing on promoting retirement security, after receiving testimony from Jack VanDerhei, Employee Benefit Research Institute, William G. Gale, Brookings Institution Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, and Karen Friedman, Pension Rights Center, all of Washington, D.C.; and Judy A. Miller, American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries, Arlington, Virginia.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine improving financial accountability at the Department of Defense, focusing on ongoing challenges in implementing the financial improvement and audit readiness plan, after receiving testimony from Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary, and Comptroller, Elizabeth A. McGrath, Deputy Chief Management Officer, Gladys J. Commons, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management, and Comptroller, Mary Sally Matiella, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management, and Comptroller, and Jamie M. Morin, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management, and Comptroller, all of the Department of Defense; and Asif A. Khan, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, Government Accountability Office.

EMPLOYMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH SIGNIFICANT DISABILITIES

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of employment for people with the most significant disabilities, after receiving testimony from Katy Beh Neas, Easter Seals Office of Public Affairs, and Jonathan Young, National Council on Disability, both of Washington, D.C.; Fredric Schroeder, San Diego State University Interwork Institute, San Diego, California; Ruby Moore, Georgia Advocacy Office, Decatur; Janet Samuelson, ServiceSource, Alexandria, Virginia; Michael Pearson, Union Packaging, LLC, Yeadon, Pennsylvania; Julie Petty, Fayetteville, Arkansas; and Deb Pumphrey, Ottumwa, Iowa.

TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine tribal transportation, focusing on paving the way for jobs, infrastructure, and safety in native communities, after receiving testimony from John R. Baxter, Associate Administrator for Federal Lands, Federal Highway Administration, and Robert Sparrow, Indian Reservation Roads Program Manager, Office of Federal Lands Highways, both of the Department of Transportation; Paul Tsosie, Chief of Staff, Office of the Assistant Secretary, and Leroy Gishi, Chief, Division of Transportation, both of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Jefferson Keel, National Congress of American Indians, Washington, D.C.; C. John Healy Sr., Intertribal Transportation Association, Harlem, Montana; Charles W. Murphy, and Pete Red Tomahawk, both